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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/363,003	07/28/99	BEIGEL	K 96-0755,01

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MM42/1117

EXAMINER

LE, V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2824

DATE MAILED:

11/17/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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NOV 23 1999

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/363003

Applicant(s)

Beigel et al

Examiner

Vu Le

Group Art Unit

2824

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address--

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

### Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 56, 58, 65-66, 73-74, 139-151 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☒ Claim(s) 38, 65-66, 130-151 is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 56, 73-74, 139-149 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
  - ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

Vu A. Le  
Primary Examiner

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

### Attachment(s)

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 4
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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### DETAILED ACTION

The Applicant's cancellation of claims 1-55, 57, 59-64, 67-72 and 75-138 in Preliminary amendment filed on 9/20/99 has been placed in record.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 56 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hashimoto (5,748,544).

With respect to claim 1, Hashimoto (Fig.3) discloses a method of regulating a control device comprising driving said control device with a first voltage ( $V_{REF}$ ), performing a first operation, driving said control device with a second voltage (Ext voltage), performing a second operation.

3. Claims 73-74, 139-141, 143-148 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fink (5,500,824).

With respect to claims 73-74, Fink (Fig.3) discloses a voltage regulator (100) comprising a voltage reception device (102, 106) is configured to couple to memory cell by way of a equilibration device (see Fig.1) and said voltage reception device is selectively coupled to a first test voltage (see cols. 5-7).

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With respect to claims 139-141, 143-148, Fink (Fig.3) discloses first and second test voltage for margin test operation (see col.7).

4. Claim 142, 149 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yuh (5,646,880).

With respect to claim 142, 149 Yuh (Fig.1) disclose a method for regulating a control device for complementary data lines comprising amplifying a voltage difference between said complementary data lines using said control device being driven at a first voltage ( $V_{EXT}$ ), amplifying a voltage difference between said complementary data lines using said control device being driven at a second voltage ( $V_{INT}$ ).

*Allowable Subject Matter*

5. Claims 58, 65-66, 150-151 are allowed.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vu Le whose telephone number is (703) 308-1497.

Vu A. Le

November 16, 1999



Vu A. Le  
Primary Examiner